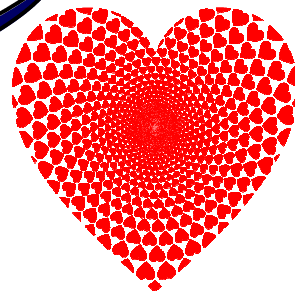


# MARSP Newsletter

February, 2020

[www.midlandretireded.org](http://www.midlandretireded.org)

February, 2020  
MARSP  
Box 4954, Midland, TX 79704



## **PLEASE COME TO THE FEBRUARY MEETING**

Don't forget to put February 6, 2020 on your calendar. This is the date for the next luncheon meeting of MARSP. Meet and greet begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. The cost of the luncheon is \$6, and your reservation is your commitment to pay. The program will be "The Texas Pecos Trail Region...A Heritage Tourism Program" presented by Melissa Hagins.

Call Anita Patton at 432-349-6822 or e-mail her at [apatton123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:apatton123@sbcglobal.net) by Monday, February 3.



### **TRTA Member Benefits**

Texas Mobile Imaging – 1 832 437-1296 \* 3 painless cardiovascular ultrasounds for the early detection and prevention of stroke.

Vision Service Plan (VSP) 1 800 258-7041 \* [www.myambabenefits.info/trta](http://www.myambabenefits.info/trta) \* Receive an eye exam and lenses every 12 months, and frames provided once every 24 months after a minimal co-pay.

Medical Air Services Association \* MASA \* 1 800 258-7041 \* [wwwmyambabenefits.info/trta](http://wwwmyambabenefits.info/trta) \* Providing life-saving emergency assistance from home or while traveling domestically or internationally. Designed to protect members against catastrophic financial loss when emergencies arise .

Lyn Fishman, Benefits



### **VOTING FOR NEW OFFICERS**

At our February meeting, we will vote on the slate of officers to lead MARSP in our 2020-2022 year. It's important that you come and vote.

Officers:

President - Mary Smith  
Co-First Vice-Presidents - Michele Cobb & Deborah Jordan  
Co-Second Vice-Presidents - Barbara Stooksberry & Joyce Watts  
Secretary - Nancy Ashley  
Treasurer- Eileen Corley



### GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! I hope that you're in full swing. Everyone sees better with 20/20 vision! Put our February 6 meeting on your calendar. Our program is "The Texas Pecos Trail Region...A Heritage Tourism Program,"

presented by Melissa Hagins. What an exciting subject! Come and bring a friend. Our "Each One Bring One" contest is in full swing. Put your info in for the \$100 drawing.

Our annual Region 18 Retirement Seminar will be Saturday morning, February 8, 2020, at Bowie Fine Arts Center Auditorium in Midland. A representative from TRTA will be here to explain how to navigate the process.

Word of mouth is our most effective method to invite retiring teachers to join MARSP. Spread the word!

April 6 – 8, 2010, is our 67th TRTA State Convention in Corpus Christi. If you would be interested in attending, please contact me. Plans are well underway for an inspiring and informative time. We would love to have you join us. It's a wonderful way to learn more about our association. Our MARSP delegates are gearing up to represent our local unit at the state level.

Deanna Dunn – MARSP President

### SAFETY TIPS BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR DRIVEWAY

Make sure the area behind your vehicle is clear before backing. Remember two important rules of backing: never back when you can front (go forward) and when you have to back, back only as far as necessary.

Lock the car doors. This prevents car-jacking and provides protection in rollover crashes.



Leave as much room as you can between you and the steering wheel to avoid injury in the event of an air bag deployment. (This is a major mistake senior citizens make--they tend to "hug" the steering wheel.)

Put on your safety belt and wear it properly, over the shoulder and adjust properly.

Adjust the seat and mirrors as required.

Make sure your windows are clear of all obstructions.

Turn on your headlamps, day or night. This is especially important when you are driving and the sun will be behind you and low on the horizon. Keep your headlamps on day and night when your car is backlit by the sun.

If you have a light blue or silver vehicle this is doubly important. These two colors get lost in the horizon and other drivers will not see you. Headlamps on alert them to your presence. The color of your vehicle may also be a factor in avoiding a crash.

Never drink and drive and be aware of the side effects of medications.

Ann Parish, Informative and Protective

### (MARSP) VOLUNTEER HOURS

Volunteer hours recorded for 2019 as of the January 9, 2020 meeting of MARSP are 23409.5. The MARSP collects volunteer hours from members to present to the State of Texas Legislators. These statistics are important when we ask for consideration and support from the State for our health care and other benefits associated with our retirement.

Examples of volunteer hours would include, but not limited to: schools, libraries, museums, any non-profit, hospitals and nursing homes, small businesses and business offices, friends, neighbors, family, senior citizen centers and other community services, raising money for worthy causes, church, babysitting, etc.



**The 2019 data were collected until January 25, 2020. At that time, the data were calculated and sent to the District CVS Chair for submission to the state. Thank you in advance for your participation in reporting data for 2019 and 2020 by submitting hours at the monthly MARSP meetings or to Helen Whitehead at [hlwhite54@gmail.com](mailto:hlwhite54@gmail.com).**

Helen Whitehead, Volunteer Chair

### CARDS TO MEMBERS

Cards going out from MARSP since the last newsletter include thinking of you to Dorothy Thompson. In addition, a sympathy card was sent to Cindy Truitt upon the death of her brother. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a card, you may contact Patti Watson at [pnw1000@gmail.com](mailto:pnw1000@gmail.com) or call her at 432-697-1170. If you have any sympathy cards or get well cards that you are not going to use, you may give them to Patti for her to use.

Patti Watson - Friendship Chair

#### **Volunteer Hours for DEC/JAN**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **EXERCISE for DEC/JAN**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YES I EXERCISED** \_\_\_\_\_



## MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL

MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL  
January 9, 2020

MARSP met at First Baptist Church Thursday, January 9, 2020. Following the luncheon, President Deanna Dunn called the meeting to order at 12:09p.m. Nancy Doss led the invocation and the pledges to the American and Texas flags. President Dunn welcomed the members.

### PROGRAM

Cindy Truitt introduced County Judge Terry Johnson, who spoke on the "The State of Affairs in Midland County." Judge Johnson talked about the concerns of the county and the Midland county voters. There was a question and answer session. Judge Johnson was presented a certificate from MARSP and a donation to the scholarship fund in his name.

### BUSINESS MEETING

- a. President Dunn discussed the TRTA State Convention that will be held Monday through Wednesday, April 6-8, 2020, at American Bank Center in Corpus Christi. Members interested in acting as delegates, please contact President D. Dunn. The organization has funds that should cover most, if not all, of your expenses.
- b. The AARP has a Tax-Aid Program will offer free tax preparation at Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 AM to 1:30 PM. ( Need volunteers to prepare taxes)
- c. Debbie Jordan reported the current membership is 283. Membership renewal is in March.
- d. Cindy Truitt introduced the new book project chairmen, Barbara Stooksberry and Joyce Watts.
- e. The February program will be presented by Melissa Hagins: "Texas Pecos Trail Region—a Heritage Tourism.Program."
- f. Minutes were approved and will be filed.
- g. The financial report was accepted for audit.
- h. Ann Parish reported to the group there is a new shingles shot in two doses.
- i. Mike Landrum reported that the yearbook is almost finished. Mike also shared the district website link.
- j. Drawing for volunteer hours and wellness were won by Mike Landrum and Eileen Corley. (Keep turning your volunteer hours in).

### REMINDERS

Executive Board Meeting on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. at Centennial Library, room 113.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:10p.m.

Nancy Ashley, Secretary



## TRTF SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT DEADLINE APPROACHING

The Texas Retired Teachers Foundation (TRTF), the charitable partner organization of the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA), is pleased to announce that applications are available for its Beginning Teacher Scholarship and Classroom Assistance Grant programs.

The Beginning Teacher Scholarship program reimburses an applicant for certification tests and test results and provides money to help the applicant purchase classroom materials for his or her first year of teaching. An applicant must be related to a current TRTA member, and plan to begin teaching in Texas in the fall of 2020 to be eligible. TRTF will award twenty \$750 Beginning Teacher Scholarships in 2020.

The Classroom Assistance Grant program awards funds to public school teachers who demonstrate commitment to public education and Texas children through the creation of programs, events or other learning platforms. An applicant must be a public-school teacher for the 2020-2021 school year who pays into the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) and must have handwritten consent from the school principal expressing approval of their project. TRTF will award thirty \$500 Classroom Assistance Grants in 2020.

All recipients will be announced during the Foundation Luncheon at the TRTA Convention in Corpus Christi on April 8, 2020.

Due to some recent technical difficulties with the Foundation website, applications cannot be downloaded from TRTF's site currently. Please send an e-mail to [sarah@trta.org](mailto:sarah@trta.org) for more information.

**Applications must be received in full by February 27, 2020**, including college transcripts for the Beginning Teacher Scholarship program.



## **Humana Medicare Advantage offers Go365 A Personalized Wellness and Rewards Program**

To register for G0365, go to <https://www.humana.com/go365/>. TRS Retirees enrolled in Humana Medicare Advantage are issued a card with a member LD. You will be asked for your member I.D. number or your social security number, along with your date of birth and zip code.

At the beginning, you will complete a Health Assessment survey consisting of a short series of questions that reveal your G0365 Age—a measure of whether your body is living younger or older than your actual age and you will unlock activities recommended just for you. You will earn 500 bucks from this activity. Bucks have no cash value and can only be spent in the G0365 Mall.

Earn awesome rewards bucks for prevention activities such as shots for flu, shingles, and pneumonia. Also listed are mammograms, colonoscopies, bone density tests, vision and dental exams. These activities are verified by your physicians. Also earn bucks (not money) for walking, which can be verified by an app. SilverSneakers® Fitness—Staying in shape and feeling good are important at any age. That's why most Humana's Medicare plans include the SilverSneakers Fitness program - at no extra cost\*. Humana purchases a local membership from a participating fitness center (gym) to get you into shape. You swipe your gym card as proof of your attendance and it is reported to G0365. As you complete healthy activities and get more engaged, you can rack up the rewards.” The more you earn, the more options you have in the G0365 Mall!

For options outside the traditional fitness location, try SilverSneakers FLEX™ with classes including tai chi, yoga, and walking groups offered at local parks and recreation centers. Use the Humana Medicare member Provider Service telephone number on the back of your Humana card to call 1800-320-9566 and ask to be transferred to GO365. <https://www.humana.com/g03651> SilverSneakers-Call 1-888-423-4632 (TTY:711), Monday through Friday, 8 am to 8 pm. <https://www.humana.com/medicare-support/benefits/health-programs/silversneakers> or to register go to [www.silversneakers.com](http://www.silversneakers.com)

\*Go 365 offers more than what is listed on this page; explore the many possibilities.

### **EACH ONE BRING ONE**

TRTA membership initiative “Each One Bring One” gives members a chance to win \$100! The member’s name will be submitted for a drawing for each member recruited to join the state association.

Follow these procedures to ensure that the records for the prize drawing are accurate. Check with our First Vice-President Debbie Jordan to ensure compliance.

- A member is eligible for entry in the drawing for each new member recruited to join the state association. A new recruit is defined as a person who has never before joined TRTA or who has not been a member in the past three years.
- When a new member joins, they should submit their dues and the “Each One Bring One” recruitment form to the local unit treasurer. The local unit treasurer confirms payment and the new member’s eligibility for the initiative.
- All completed “Each One Bring One” recruitment forms must be submitted to the local unit first vice-president/membership chair.
- The local unit first vice-president/membership chair will forward the recruitment forms to the district first vice-president.
- The district first vice-president will retain the recruitment forms, which will then be used as tickets for the prize drawing. The recruiting TRTA member will receive one entry per each new member recruited.
- The district first vice-president will bring all recruitment forms to the District Spring Leadership Development Conferences where the drawing will be conducted.

The winners will be announced and presented with \$100. Should a winner not be present, the local unit president may collect the award on the winner’s behalf or request that a \$100 check be mailed to the winner from the TRTA office following the District Spring Leadership Development Conferences.

